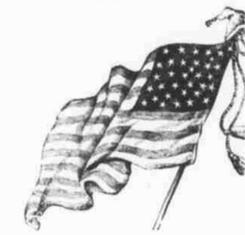


THE GREENVILLE JOURNAL
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
C. O. WILL, Editor and Publisher.
OFFICE: Cor. Broad and Fourth St.
Greenville National Bank.



With one arm free British exports of cotton yarns and textiles for last year aggregated \$730,000,000, while our aggregated \$150,000,000. That gives some idea of what Great Britain can accomplish when both arms are available for industrial production, and England must pay her debts with her exports. How large a proportion of those debts are we expected to pay by permitting British monopoly of our market through a Democratic tariff law?

On February 14, after the worst of the winter weather had passed, Fuel Administrator Garfield announced the appointment of Mr. L. A. Snead as an assistant to "visit various cities and localities in order to obtain first-hand information as to conditions and the remedy necessary to meet the situation." Assuming that the assistant prosecutes his work at the same rate of speed as his chief, we may expect that about the first of June Mr. Snead will report that he has traveled over the whole country and finds that no homes are suffering for want of coal, and that the American business men have solved all the difficulties returning summer weather did not solve, so that no further remedy is needed. Which report will probably be true about June 1.

Those good people who are fond of likening President Wilson to Abraham Lincoln will concede that there is one notable difference between the two men. This difference is illustrated by a story told of Lincoln during the Civil war. A man of unquestioned loyalty went to the White House to persuade Lincoln to give him a pass through the lines so that he might visit his brother. Mr. Lincoln suggested that the man see General Halleck, but was informed that Halleck had already refused a pass. "Then you had better see Secretary Stanton," was suggested. "I have tried him and he refused," said the petitioner. "Then I am afraid I cannot do anything for you," replied President Lincoln, "for the fact is that I have very little influence with this administration." In this administration the members of the cabinet are completely under the influence of the President. They wouldn't be there otherwise.

published a card to be hung in the kitchen, known as a "ration card," which is to carry the signed promise of the householders to abide by the regulations therein set forth. The card shows the "weekly allowance per person" of food, the observance of ration being voluntary. Of some things, fish, game, etc., it allows "as much as necessary;" of others, cooking fats and cream, "only as much as necessary;" and of still others, non-wheat cereals, vegetables and cheese, "as much as desired." Here is a suggestion which, from the practical point of view, might appeal to the food theorists controlling our gastronomy: Supply to each person, at cost, one stethoscope, one pair of pocket scales and a ready reference table of calories. Then after testing his heart action he can glance at the table to see how many calories are required to sustain his heart at the normal beat for a given period, abstract from his larger something which will not put him in wrong with a wheatless, meatless, sweetless day, weigh it carefully, and munch it slowly. Thus will the Food Administration be apotheosized and our war heroes will return from victory to be laurel-crowned by an anemic and pallid populace.

Hurrah for Hays. The selection of Will H. Hays, of Indiana, to be chairman of the Republican National Committee, will give a feeling of satisfaction and confidence throughout the party. He is a man of real ability and great energy, with a special talent for organization. He takes over the work in time to help in electing a Republican Congress in 1918 and has two years in which to prepare for the presidential election of 1920. The years of Republican rambling about seem to be drawing to a close. If the party is not successful in 1918 and 1920 it will not be charged to defects in campaign management.

Political Gossip. Fifty millions of tons more coal was mined in 1917 than in 1916. Yet there was a general fuel famine east of the Mississippi and north of Mason and Dixon's line. Governor Cox says locomotives have been utilized to haul tourists to Florida when they should have been used for pulling trains carrying coal to districts greatly in need of fuel. Boy, page Mr. McAdoo. In his dual capacity of ruler of the railroads and heir-apparent to the throne, why is this permitted? We see where the Republicans have chosen Will H. Hayes, an approved, experienced and successful man, for National Chairman. We do not understand this. Was there no college professor available or could not some magazine writer have been found? Roosevelt has the Democratic press worrying. "We want to go back and live in the atmosphere before the war," said Senator Ollie James in the Senate debate. We hope no Senator will be so

discourteous as to recall the hot air Senator James put in his speech at the Democratic convention in St. Louis. It was a wonderful mixture of pacifism, pathos and piffle.

Senator Galbreath says the public schools and teachers are entitled to relief. He says: "Why not kick a hole in the State Treasury and secure a portion of the state funds for the public schools?" According to State Auditor Donahey the hole in the State Treasury has already been kicked by the Cox administration. If it's just debts were paid, says Mr. Donahey, Ohio would not have a penny in its strong box.

We can't get it out of our mind that a just Providence has been heaping "coals of ice" upon the heads of the people for the way they voted in 1916. It is about time that the volatile element in our voting population should wake up to the fact that effect usually treads upon the heels of cause.

The Toledo Blade calls attention to the fact that the heads of the shipping board are not shipping experts: the fuel administration is controlled by men who are ignorant of coal, business and transportation; the autocrat of the railroads is not a railroad man.

The President should not forget that what may please in Austria may anger in Italy. Our obligations and our necessities are with Italy. Hog Island was appropriately named.

Ohio Needs Seed Corn. Most of the corn harvested in Ohio in 1917 is not fit for seed, according to the Ohio Experiment Station, which has been testing nearly two thousand samples representing almost every county in the State. Crib and field lots range in germination from 1 to 40 per cent.

Corn gathered and stored under artificial drying conditions before the freezing weather last December show 90 to 100 per cent germination in these tests. Half of the corn kept from the crop of 1916 tests this high, and three-fourths of such samples are above 80 per cent. Seed corn this spring must come from three sources: A few farmers stored their corn early so that it was well dried out when cold weather came. Some corn matured comparatively early in southern counties and can be used in that part of the State. All old corn from 1916 should be held for seed and tested for germination.

Since local seed corn is always safest, the Experiment Station advises farmers to buy as near home as possible and to test each ear before planting. The "rag doll" test is easily made at home. A cloth about 10 by 60 inches is marked off in 40 squares in each of which are placed six kernels from an ear numbered to correspond with the number given the space on the cloth. The cloth is rolled up, soaked in water 3 to 19 hours and placed in a warm room. In about a week the count can be made for good ears, and all proving poor germination can be discarded.

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